SB NEWSLIN @ ALLBBS \$NLIN.957 Amateur Radio Newsline #957 17 DEC 1995

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NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #957 - POSTED 12/17/95

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. Amateur Radio Newsline is a audio news service distrib- uted via telephone.

This hardcopy version is produced by Dale Cary - WD0AKO from scripts provided to him weekly by Newsline. It is then distributed to on-line services, bbs networks and internet user jointly by Dale Cary and Steve Coletti.

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The audio version of Newsline can be recorded from one of the currently operating lines listed below. This list is kept as accurate as possible. If any changes are not listed, please contact Dale Cary - WD0AKO at the above listed addresses.

Audio Version of Newsline

Los Angeles(213) 462-0008Los Angeles (Instant Update Line)(805) 296-2407Seattle(206) 368-3969Seattle(206) 281-8455Tacoma(206) 927-7373Louisville(502) 894-8559Dayton(513) 275-9991Chicago(708) 289-0423New York City(718) 284-0752Melbourne, Florida(407) 768-7447Houston, Texas(713) 362-4650Conroe, Texas(409) 525-6250
Electronic Hardcopy Version of Newsline
GEnie (RTC Bulletin Board)

True Speech Internet Site

http://www.scott.net/~wa4fat

For the latest breaking info call the Instant Update Line listed above. To provide information please call (805) 296-7180. This line answers automatically and will accept up to 30 minutes of material.

Check with your local amateur radio club to see if NEWSLINE can be heard weekly on the air in your area.

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For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an SASE at

NEWSLINE c/o Andy Jarema-N6TCQ P.O.Box 660937 Arcadia, CA 91066

Thank You,

NEWSLINE

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Some of the hams of AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE:

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB4KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

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[957]

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(* * * * * CLOSED CIRCUIT ADVISORY
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                                                                *
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       The following advisory is not necessarily for transmission
                                                                *
    over amateur radio. This is just a reminder that the address
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    for the Newsline Support Fund is:
(*
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                       Newsline
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                       c/o Andy Jarema-N6TCQ
(*
                       P.O.Box 660937
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(*	Arcadia, California	4
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(*	Again, and as always, we thank you. This ends the closed	Ą
(*	circuit with Newsline report number 957 for release on Friday,	7
(*	December 15, 1995 to follow.	7
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The following is a QST

TOR FLOAT HAM STATION

Amateur radio will be part of a Southern California tradition. A live ham radio station will be operated from a float in 1996 Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. The Edison Amateur Network has accepted an invitation from the Southern California Edison utility company to install a ham radio transceiver on board the company's float. The station will be operated by Jim Walls, WB6WMW.

This will be one of two special event stations planned by the club to help usher in 1996. The other is an ongoing event from Fiesta Parade Floats in nearby Azusa. That station will be on the air every day that S.C.E. personnel are at work finishing the Company float. That means every Saturday until Christmas and then daily until New Years Eve. Both stations will use the club callsign WB6UCD.

This is only the second time in the history of the Tournament of Roses Parade that a ham radio station has operated from a parade float. Back in the 1980's, Pete Hoover, W6ZH operated a Ten-Tec high frequency transceiver from a float. The first ham to transmit a signal from a float, though not on the ham bands, was Howard Lang, WB6UFM. In 1986, Howard donned a Davey Crockett costume so he could operate a point to point broadcast remote microwave transmitter tied to a television camera for KTTV television. The pictures Howard relayed back for the first time gave viewers at home a float rider's eye view of the parade.

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FORM 610-V

A form many amateur radio operators have been anxiously awaiting, Form 610V is now available. 610V is the application for Vanity callsigns. In response to requests by radio amateurs, the American Radio Relay League has mailed 9,000 copies of the form. If you requested one from the League and don't receive it by December 16th, call area code (860) 594-0300. There is one big catch to the new form's availability. While you can obtain a copy, you still can't turn it in, that's because the FCC is not yet accepting 610Vs for

filing. The Commission is expected to announce opening dates for the first vanity callsign filing gate in early 1996. You can obtain FCC Form 610V, along with FCC vanity callsign information fact sheet PR-9000 number 206V by writing to the ARRL. The League's address is 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111. Be sure to include a self addressed stamped envelope. You can also obtain Form 610V from the Internet at http://www.FCC.gov/forms/form610V. The Commission's Forms Distribution center will accept orders in about a month, you can call the center at 1 800 418-3676.

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SHURE OBIT

The inventor of the modern microphone has died. Sidney N. Shure founded the Shure Radio Company in Chicago back in 1925 as a parts supplier for early radio experimenters. The first microphone produced Shure produced was a twin-button carbon unit in 1932. Five years later, Shure developed the first modern noise canceling microphone followed a year later by the first magnetic based microphone. By 1939, Shure had invented and patented the Unidyne which was the world's first single element directional mike. The company became Shure Brothers Inc. in 1928. When the government needed huge quantities of high reliability shock proof microphones during World War II, it turned to Shure as one of its primary suppliers. Responding to the need, Sidney Shure recruited and trained hundreds of new employees in a program he called "Microphones are weapons of war."

After the conflict ended, the government commended the company and Mr. Shure with three joint Army-Navy awards for excellence in service to the nation.

After the war, Sidney Shure continued building all of the company products to strict military specifications. This includes the microphones used by ham radio operators over the years. Sidney Shure died in Evanston, Illinois October 17th at the age of 93. He's survived by his wife Rose and two children.

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RSGB SATELLITE FUNDS

The Radio Society of Great Britain has once again said yes to the Phase 3D ham radio satellite! According to a recent GB2RS bulletin, Society President, Clive Trotman, GW4YKL, has presented a cheque for 25,000 Pounds to Ron Broadbent, G3AAJ, of AMSAT-UK. This, in support of the AMSAT Phase 3D satellite project. In addition, the Society's Council has agreed to make a further contribution of 25,000 Pounds on condition that AMSAT-UK raises a similar amount from other sources.

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ARRL AWARD FEES

A new fee schedule for ARRL operating awards takes effect January 1st, 1996. Some fees are unchanged...some rise from 1995 levels, and some are new. The new schedule is based on policy developed by the Board's Membership Services Committee and approved by the Board's Administration and Finance Committee. The goal is to come close to breaking even with the costs of offering awards. In many cases in the past, the League recovered the cost of postage for mailing an award and returning QSL cards, but absorbed the costs of printing the certificates and of administration.

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EXAM DAYS

The 1996 ARRL Spring and Fall National Exam Days will be April 27th and September 28th and 29th. Details will appear in the January issue QST magazine.

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SECOND NEWSLINE WEB AUDIO SOURCE

A second World Wide Web site now offers an audio version of Newsline. This one has been put on line by Hank Armstrong in Santa Clarita, California using I-WAVE technology from Vocaltec. Hank says the fidelity is excellent. You can find out for yourself by visiting the site at http://www.smartlink.net./~hca3. If you missed that rather complex Universal Resource Locator you can send an information request to Hank Armstrong via the internet. His e-mail address is easy to remember. It's simply Hank@Hank.com.

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FCC BOOK ON THE INTERNET

The FCC Interference Handbook now is available on the Internet. The 22 page booklet, available from the Compliance and Information Bureau via the FCC World Wide Web home page, includes the same information and illustrations contained in the recently published Interference to Home Electronic Entertainment Equipment Handbook. It includes information about equipment installation, identifying interference sources, curing interference problems, and filters. You'll also find a list of home electronic equipment manufacturers and telephone numbers. Pictures illustrate different TV interference problems, including ham or CB transmitter interference.

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EAS DEADLINE EXTENDED

The FCC has extended the deadline for implementation of the new national Emergency Alert System to January of 1997. The original deadline was July 1st 1996, but the Commission gave into broadcast industry pressure and has granted the time extension. In filings before the FCC, broadcasters argued that the July date did not give them adequate time to equip all stations for the switchover. The EAS is the first alerting system crafted to include private communicators in its operations. The Emergency Alert System replaces the old Emergency Broadcast System or EBS which is a hold-over from the cold war days.

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HANDI HAM CAMP DATE CHANGE

Newsline correspondent Linda Reader, N7HVF reports a date change for the 1996 Handi Ham California ham radio camp. Linda says the new date is March 3rd through the 10th. This is several weeks later than in past years and breaks a long standing early winter tradition for the camp. If you'd like more information on the camp out or the Handi Ham assistance program for the disabled, you can write to the Courage Handi Ham System, at the Courage Center, 3915 Golden Valley Road, Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422.

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NORTH TEXAS BALLOON PROJECT QRT?

Has the North Texas high altitude ham radio balloon project come to an end? Doug Howard, KG50A says via the Internet that it's unclear if or when another amateur radio balloon will be launched by the group. Doug says it appears the interest level has declined to a point where the project may indeed be complete. He notes that there is still a substantial audience around the country for the project, but adds that it takes a large, committed effort from a big group of people to actually make a mission succeed. Maybe we'll launch again, Howard says, maybe not.

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DX

In DX, the old XZ1A equipment remains in place on Mayanmar with activity by OH1NYP and OH2BH expected in January. They will concentrate on 160 and 80 meters. XZ1A cards are expected to be in the mail by early January.

And the European PacketCluster shows YA9XL in Afghanastan on 40 meters between 17:30 and 22:30z. The operator says to QSL via F5TCN. A station with the call sign A51JM claiming to be in Bhutan may be a pirate. He was only on once on C-W and those who worked him say they had to point beams to location other than toward Buthan.

And look for Kermedec Island on the air next year. ZL1AMO, and a group of other New Zealand operators plan to be active in May 1996. Landing permission has already been granted.

Finally, word that the new officers of the Northern California DX Foundation include Eric Edberg, W6DU as President Len Geraldi, K6ANP as Vice President Jack Troster, W6ISQ as Secretary and Bruce Butler, W6OSP as Treasurer. The Foundation is well known for its financial support of DXpeditions, worldwide.

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MIR QSL NEWS

This quick note. Dave Larsen, N6JLH, is now the new QSL manager for the USA for all Mir space station QSL cards for the call sign R0MIR and R0MIR/1. All older call signs have to go to Russia.

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GET WELL ART

If you have ever used a ham radio repeater, then you owe a debt of gratitude to a California ham named Arthur M. Gentry, W6MEP. Back in the late 1940's Art Gentry began experimenting with advanced receiver designs of that era that led to the development of the first practical ham radio repeater. His system, using the call sign K6MYK, came on the air in the early 1950's from atop Mt. Lee. That's the hill overlooking Los Angeles that is home to the famous Hollywood sign. Every repeater on the air today can literally trace its ancestry back to the early experiments of W6MEP. But time has taken its toll on Art's health. A few years ago, he turned over the day-to-day operation of the system to his longtime friend Bill Arens, N6NMC:

"Art just recently had surgery and since had to go into a rehabilition facility in order to try and get him to learn how to walk again. He is 89 years old. Let's face it, at that age we don't recover quite as quickly as when we are younger."

As Christmas approaches, it occurs to Bill Arens and to us here at Newsline that it might be a nice gesture for all of those hams who use repeaters for day to day hamming to take a moment to express their gratitude to W6MEP:

"If everybody who uses a repeater today would appreciate the fact that Art was one of the forefathers of ham radio repeaters. One of the first in the world, commercial or otherwise, to put a repeater on the air. And all the red tape he had to go through with the FCC. The little beep tone you hear on a repeater, he is the one who invented that. Simple things, everyone out there using a repeater, if you would just send him a QSL card, a Christmas card, anything. He is good in the callbook. I'm sure it would mean a lot to him."

Please take a moment to jot down your wishes to art for his speedy recovery. Send your card to:

Art Gentry, W6MEP 7832 Jellico Avenue Northridge, California 91325

We at Newsline join with Bill Arens, N6NMC and the user base of the W6MEP repeater in wishing our longtime friend Art Gentry a speedy return to good health. We also will add that if Art had not invented the practical ham radio repeater, you probably would not be listening to Newsline right now.

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And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline. You can write to us at:

NEWSLINE P.O.Box 660937 Arcadia, California 91066

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at our editor's desk, we say 73 and thank you for listening, and the best of the holiday season.

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